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because it was driven by this Legislature or the Natural Resources Committee or Senator Schellpeper or anybody else. exploded quite naturally. It was actually an interesting phenomena even for me, who have been around a number of years. And the Natural Resources Committee, in conjunction with the Ag Committee, Senator Dierks and his committee, has been an enormous help on this...on this whole issue. We had hearings around the state in the summer and the fall. We were going to little towns here and there, eastern Nebraska, north and south, and there were 150, 200, 250 people showing up at these hearings. And we listened to them to...from...we listened to them from early afternoon till six and seven and eight and I think once even almost till ten o'clock one night. Senator Bohlke, in Crete was it? And there were a lot of people eventually on both sides of the issue coming to these hearings in considerable number, but at the beginning I think it's fair say that there was a substantial portion of the rural community that was upset about the potential of large hog We went through these hearings and I think the operations. committee would agree with me that the conclusions were...were something like this, to oversimplify a little bit. It was our perception and after looking at the rules and regs and the statutes it was our perception that DEQ has broad authority now over livestock operations and, by the way, I should indicate although this problem was generated by the potential onslaught of large hog operations I think everyone would agree that the whole area deals with livestock--cattle, hogs, poultry of different types. And so what we're talking about here are livestock generally, not just hogs, and we will speak a little more later about how those different types of livestock related in the bill. But going back to the point I was making, I think we were in broad agreement that, except for some clarifications and except for the problem or question of odor DEQ, with respect to the protection of the environment generally, had very broad authority. And so the Natural Resources Committee, in seeking to put the three bills together, in seeking to put before you a bill which is what will be in front of you in terms of the committee amendment to this bill, I'm really talking now about the committee amendment because that is the bill, what we put in front of you was not a bill that expanded, with one exception, in any significant way the powers of the department. We did not think we had a big problem